<center>REMARKS</center>

The present application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated April 11, 2011. Claims 1, 3-11, 14, and 15 are presented for examination, of which Claims 1, 10, and 11 are in independent form. Claims 1, 10, and 11 have been amended to define aspects of Applicants' invention more clearly. Support for the claim amendments may be found, for example, in FIG.6 and the description thereof in the specification.[1] Favorable reconsideration is requested.

The Office Action rejects Claims 1, 3, 7-11, and 15 under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0003060 (*Asoh et al.*) in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0029531 (*Ohta*), in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0003933 (*Deshpande et al.*), and further in view of a document entitled "Direct Print Standard (DPS)" (*DPReview*); and rejects Claims 4-6 and 14 under § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Asoh et al.* in view of *Ohta*, *Deshpande et al.*, and *DPReview*, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,157,465 (*Suda et al.*). Applicant respectfully traversse the rejections and submits that independent Claims 1, 10, and 11, together with the claims dependent therefrom, are patentably distinct from the cited prior art.

Claim 1 is directed to a connection control method for an information processing apparatus. The method includes receiving identification information identifying a plurality of wireless networks. A first wireless network identified by the received identification information is automatically joined. Another information processing apparatus that is a wireless direct print type printer having a function of performing a predetermined processing is searched for in the first wireless network. If the other information processing apparatus is found based on the

---

[1] Any examples presented herein are intended for illustrative purposes and are not to be construed to limit the scope of the claims.

<center>9</center>

searching, the other information processing apparatus is requested to perform the predetermined processing.

Notably, if the other information processing apparatus that is the wireless direct print type printer having the function of performing the predetermined processing in the first wireless network is not found based on the searching, a second wireless network identified by the received identification information is automatically joined and the other information processing apparatus is searched for in the second wireless network. If the other information processing is found in the second wireless network based on the searching, the other information processing apparatus is requested to perform the predetermined processing.

By virtue of the method according to Claim 1, a simple operation can be performed at an information processing apparatus to request that another apparatus perform a predetermined processing in a network that the information processing apparatus and the other apparatus have joined, for example.

*Asoh et al.* is understood to relate to a computer that can be connected to a plurality of networks (*see* paragraph 2). In *Asoh et al.*, to use a predetermined network connection, an object may be selected from a set of objects, wherein each object includes physical and logical network configuration information (*see* paragraph 12). Nothing has been found in *Asoh et al.* that is believed to teach or suggest that, after the computer automatically joins a first network and searches for a particular apparatus, if the apparatus is not found in the first wireless network, the computer automatically joins a second wireless network and searches for the apparatus, and, if the apparatus found is found in the second wireless network, the computer requests a predetermined processing from the apparatus.

*Ohta* is understood to relate to a system for printing information at a conveniently located printer station that can be selected in a predetermined area (*see* paragraph 1). In *Ohta*, a plurality of printer stations can be provided in a predetermined area and can be networked to a print server that stores information; a first wireless signal can be sent from a portable device directly to each of the printer stations; a positional relation between the portable device and each of the printer stations can be determined based upon the first wireless signal; at least one of the printer stations can be selected based upon the positional relation; information can be received at a selected printer station; and the information can be printed at the selected printer station (*see* paragraph 7). Nothing has been found in *Ohta* that is believed to teach or suggest that, after the portable device joins a first network and searches for a particular printer station, if the printer station is not found in the first wireless network, the portable device automatically joins a second wireless network and searches for the printer station, and, if the printer station is found in the second wireless network, the portable device requests a predetermined processing from the printer station. Accordingly, *Ohta* is not understood to remedy the deficiencies of *Asoh et al.* identified above.

*Deshpande et al.* is understood to relate to techniques and structures for providing wireless network access and services within a communication system (*see* paragraph 1). In *Deshpande et al.*, a communication device can be located within an area that is serviced by multiple wireless network access service providers (*see* paragraph 8). The communication device in *Deshpande et al.* can establish a temporary network connection with each of the wireless network access service providers, and can measure a bandwidth of each temporary network connection (*see* paragraph 15). After the communication device has analyzed information received from the wireless network access service providers, one of the wireless

network access service providers is selected based on user-specific connection preferences, for example, a least expensive wireless network access service provider that can provide a per user bandwidth greater than "X" (*see* paragraph 16).

As best understood by Applicant, the communication device in *Deshpande et al.* temporarily connects to each of the wireless network access service providers before one of the service providers is selected. That is, to determine which of the wireless network access service providers is the least expensive, the communication device must first collect information from all of the wireless network access service providers in the area. Nothing has been found in *Deshpande et al.* that is believed to teach or suggest that, after the communication device joins a first network and searches for a particular apparatus, if the apparatus is not found in the first wireless network, the communication device automatically joins a second wireless network and searches for the apparatus, and, if the apparatus is found in the second wireless network, the communication device requests a predetermined processing from the apparatus. Accordingly, *Deshpande et al.* is not understood to remedy the deficiencies of *Asoh et al.* and *Ohta* identified above.

*DPReview* is understood to relate to the Direct Print Standard (DPS), which enables direct communications between a digital camera and a photo printer, without requiring a computer to be connected to the digital camera and the printer (*see* first paragraph). Nothing has been found in *DPReview* that is believed to teach or suggest that, after a digital camera automatically joins a first network and searches for a photo printer, if the photo printer is not found in the first wireless network, the digital camera automatically joins a second wireless network and searches for the photo printer, and, if the photo printer is found in the second wireless network, the digital camera requests a predetermined processing from the photo printer.

Accordingly, *DPReview* is not understood to remedy the deficiencies of *Asoh et al.*, *Ohta*, and *Deshpande et al.* identified above.

In summary, Applicants submit that a combination of *Asoh et al.*, *Ohta*, *Deshpande et al.* and *DPReview*, assuming such combination would even be permissible, would fail to teach or suggest a method that includes, among other things, "a control step of controlling the information processing apparatus so as to search for the other information processing apparatus that is the wireless direct print type printer having the function of performing the predetermined processing in the second wireless network, and request, if the other information processing apparatus that is the wireless direct print type printer having the function of performing the predetermined processing in the second wireless network is found based on the searching, the other information processing apparatus that is the wireless direct print type printer having the function of performing the predetermined processing in the second wireless network to perform the predetermined processing," as recited in Claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claim 1 is patentable over *Asoh et al.*, *Ohta*, *Deshpande et al.* and *DPReview*, whether considered separately or in combination, and therefore withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is respectfully requested.

Independent Claims 10 and 11 include features sufficiently similar to those of Claim 1 that these claims are believed to be patentable over the cited art for the reasons discussed above. The other claims in the present application depend from independent Claim 1 and are submitted to be patentable for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim also is deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, individual reconsideration of the patentability of each claim on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and an early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

/John Wakeley/

John Wakeley
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 60,418

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
1290 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10104-3800
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200